

COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
Agency Involvement/Oversight
Sub-Committee Minutes

Tuesday, December 10, 2013 (10 am)
888-494-4032
Access code: 6552044636

- I. Welcome**
Kimberly Wasserman – Chairman, EJ Commission
- II. Introductions**
A. Teleconference
- Ken Page, IEPA
 - Kim Wasserman. LVEJO
 - Cheryl Johnson, PCR
 - Bola Delano, IDOT
 - Gloria Williams, IDNR
 - Jeffrey Jones, IDNR
 - LaTonya Lumpkin, DOA
 - Joe Mitchell, IDPH
 - Kate Tomford, DCEO
 - Dan Salamone, DCEO
 - Alec Messina, IERG
 - Chris Pressnall, IEPA
 - Keith Harley, CLC
 - Sharonda Williams, IEPA
 - Mary McDonald, IEPA
- III. Approval of Agenda**
Motion – Alec Messina
Second – Bola Delano
Motion carried
- IV. Subcommittee Structure**
A. Should every member of the EJ Commission be required to be on a subcommittee?
- Messina – Stated that it wasn't necessary to require people to be on a subcommittee. The primary purpose of the subcommittees is to look at issues that the Commission chooses. The subcommittee can then make presentations to the Commission and the Commission can vote on any final actions.

- Mitchell – Stated that it should be voluntary.
- Lumpkin – Stated it should be optional, not required
- Wasserman- Stated that everyone seems to agree with voluntary participation, is there anyone that disagrees with this option? She also stated that she agreed with Alec Messina and envisioned that the subcommittees would go back to the larger Commission for input.

B. Minimum number of people required to be present for the sub-committee to conduct business (Quorum)

- It was recommended that 1/3 of the Commission membership (20 people) or between 5 to 7 people be the minimum number.

C. Election of a subcommittee Chairman.

- There were no volunteers for the position. This will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

V. Visions for the Agency Involvement/Oversight Sub-committee:

- Wasserman- Suggested pulling resources on the federal level. Using similar format when federal agencies presented to NEJAC (National Environmental Justice Advisory Committee)
- Tomford – Stated that as a baseline we need to figure out what our agencies are doing. She suggested developing a map of what programs exist for agencies that are in this Commission.
- Harley – Stated that when agencies go through this process it provides a basis for the public to be involved in a meaningful way. He also stated that we already have an agency in this Commission that we can look to. IL EPA has a template that other agencies can look to for guidance.
- Wasserman- Stated that mapping on what people have and don't have is a good place to start. She asked the group whether they wanted to start with the agencies currently at the table.
- Messina- Stated let's give agencies the opportunity to see if they do have something. He also stated that the first step is for the agencies on this Commission to see what's in place already.
- Lumpkin – Stated that she doesn't know how the Dept. on Aging fits into EJ or the Commission.
- Page- Stated it is his understanding that IDA was chosen to be on this Commission since they serve a vulnerable population, the elderly. He suggested that IDA map what they do and see where there are opportunities to incorporate environmental justice.
- Pressnall- Stated that IL EPA can lend resources and guide people through this process. He suggested that IL EPA give a primer on

environmental justice and how it can fit into different programs, for example aging.

- Wasserman- Stated that having a guide or workshop would help agencies determine what they could do. She also stated that it would be helpful for IL EPA to have a facilitated discussion and for there to be a document that shows what environmental justice work is being done at the agencies.
- Pressnall- Stated that IL EPA had to go through this process internally to get everyone up to speed. He also stated that IL EPA can try to facilitate a discussion and bridge the gap that exists between the different agencies.
- Delano – Stated that she needed some kind of guide to help agencies define EJ. A model template for all state agencies
- Williams- Stated getting an understanding of what we want agencies to do would be helpful. She also stated seeing what other states are doing will help us with the learning curve.
- Page- Stated that we may be the only state that has agencies on a Commission like this one. He also stated that environmental justice plans and policies may be non-existent in many state agencies outside of Illinois.
- Wasserman- Stated we will run the gamut and look at federal, city and states for guidance.
- Delano- Stated that she volunteers to be a set of eyes for the creation of the template for state agencies.
- Wasserman- Stated we will make a commitment to send out the template before the next meeting. She also stated that she will set up a call with Ken Page and Bola Delano offline to discuss the template.

Action Items

1. Research what other similar state agencies are doing throughout the country to address EJ. Also, look at the federal level and city level.
2. Provide the Univ. Of California's College of Law Hastings EJ report and the link to the Illinois EPA's EJ webpage.
3. Work on a template for state agencies.

VI. Old Business

None

VII. Discussions/Presentations:

None

- Wasserman- Stated it would be good to connect with other state agencies that are doing this work. She also stated that it would be good to hear from folks outside of the Commission as we move forward.

VIII. Next meeting date and location

Wednesday, January 8, 2014 @ 10:00 am (conference call)

IX. Adjournment

11:00 am